

2019-2021 CHNA Strategy Plan

Howard County Medical Center

I. INTRODUCTION

Loup Basin Public Health Department (LBPHD), Jeannie Melham Memorial Medical Center (JMMMC), Valley County Health System (VCHS), Howard County Medical Center (HCMC), and Callaway District Hospital began collaborations in September 2018 to conduct a comprehensive central Nebraska Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). Due to the IRS regulations which require tax-exempt hospitals to conduct a CHNA every 3 years, LBPHD facilitated a joint community health needs assessment and planning process with the four hospitals in the Loup Basin health district. LBPHD is transitioning into conducting the CHNA every three years instead of every five to align with the timeline required of tax-exempt hospital organizations by the Internal Revenue service according to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

The purpose of the CHNA process is to describe the current health status of the community, identify and prioritize health issues, better understand the range of factors that can impact health and identify assets and resources that can be mobilized to improve the health of the community.

The priority health areas identified in the 2019 Loup Basin Public Health Department Community Health Assessment and addressed in the 2019 HCMC Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) are:

1. Care Coordination based off the ACO identified patients with “high” health needs and coordinating care on the bases of those needs.
2. Implementation of Tele-medicine services to build the specialty clinics on services that are highly sought and difficult to recruit.
3. Implementation of tele-health mental health services for all ages.
4. Implementation of services that are highly sought within the community.

II. MOBILIZING FOR ACTION THROUGH PLANNING AND PARTNERSHIP (MAPP)

Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP), a partnership-based framework, was again used to conduct this round of the Community Health Needs Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan development. MAPP emphasizes the partnership with all sectors of the public health system to evaluate the health status of the region it serves, identify priority areas, and develop plans for implementation.

The MAPP process includes two preliminary steps – organization and vision.

ORGANIZATION:

A MAPP Steering Committee was formed with representatives from each of the four Loup Basin hospitals and members of the Custer County Health Coalition. Committee members provided guidance throughout the process and were charged with reviewing data and progress on the chosen priorities, and using quality improvement to modify implementation plans as needed.

Local Public Health System Collaborative Infrastructure

The region enjoys a vigorous, well-established collaborative infrastructure which provided the foundation for the local public health system communication and engagement process. This infrastructure includes:

- Loup Basin Public Health Department Board of Health comprised of twenty members. The twenty-member board is composed of a physician and dentist as well as a County Commissioner and a spirited citizen from each of LBPHD's nine counties.
- The already existing Custer County Health Coalition provided a significant platform for LBPHD to utilize through the MAPP process. The Coalition had representatives from every aspect of the local public health system and provided services from all of the 10 essential services.

MAPP Assessments

1. Community Themes and Strengths

Assembles focus groups that address the community concerns about what is important, how quality of life is perceived, and the assets that exist and can be used to improve community health.

2. Local Public Health System Assessment

Identifies the components, activities, competencies, and capacities of the public health system and how the essential services are being provided through area organizations and entities.

3. Forces of Changes Assessment

Identifies what is occurring, or might occur, that affects the health of the community. Looks at the opportunities and threats that are currently facing the region.

4. Community Health Status Assessment

Identifies priority community health and quality of life issues. Health data provided by Loup Basin Public Health Department.



III. ACTION PLANS

A. HCMC Mission

“Provide quality, efficient health care.”

HCMC is dedicated to developing strategies that help address community health issues. The following implementation strategies represent HCMC’s commitment to support the CHIP and its objectives over the next three years.

B. Implementation Strategies

In developing the implementation strategies for the 2019 period, HCMC chose to address the needs identified in the CHIP in two different ways.

1. Identifying current HCMC programs, services, and partnerships that address health.
2. Introducing new programs, initiatives, and/or service enhancements that further impact objectives of HCMC Community Health.

The process of meeting with C-Suite, directors and front-line staff discussing the implementation strategies set forth in the plan. Keeping the implementation strategy plan complete HCMC employed icons throughout the plan to illustrate priorities to be addressed by the program or service.



Behavioral Health



Access to Care



Care Coordination

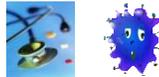
Current Programs/Services/Partnerships

Wellness Wednesday



HCMC provides monthly education and coaching for K-6 at St. Paul Public Schools. Hot topics are chosen and HCMC staff, physicians, and specialist provide education in a fun and educating environment. This is an assembly type presentation and hundreds of children receive the message. Developing a relationship with the education system and promoting vaccinations and immunizations is an avenue to promote health and wellness in the community.

Allergy Consultation and Immunology



HCMC services many patients with immunology from outside physicians. The struggle has been referring these patients for consultation and testing and the patient not waiting months for that appointment. HCMC has worked towards certifying a physician and nursing to allow the offering of consultation and testing within the facility. Immunology is also offered through the pharmacy and supervised by HCMC's pharmacist.

Mental Health Services



HCMC has partnered with Genesis Psychiatric Group to offer mental health services on an outpatient basis to all ages. HCMC has offered services to children up to age 18 through Boys Town and Medicare covered patients through our 55+ group for the past several years. Currently we are striving to meet the needs for 18-64 age group.

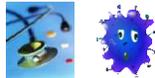
New Focus Areas

Care Coordination



HCMC recently hired a Care Coordinator, Health Coach, PA, and COPD program coordinator that will work with identified patients that have one or more chronic disease to track, coach, and mentor them to better health. HCMC recently joined an ACO and patients are identified based on claims data and the team track and monitor this information/patients. From there coaching and follow up care is tracked and documented to get these identified individuals on the road to better health. The team works closely with the primary physicians to ensure quality care is a continuum with the patients.

New Clinics



HCMC has worked to hire a Pain specialist that offers consultations and procedures weekly at the facility. HCMC is working to offer patients a second option for oncology care. HCMC will recently add podiatry to the specialist that offer services at our facility. HCMC worked to add a local specialist for ENT services vs. having a locum service. This service is offered every other week with procedures, follow-ups, and consultations being done.

Community Outreach



A wellness coordinator was hired in 2016 and has developed several community outreach wellness programs. Since 2016 several programs have been developed like a Fit and Fabulous that is a workout program that is scheduled for 3 days a week and this program also helps individuals with food choices. Monthly presentations are done at the Senior Citizen Center on a variety of topics.

Wellness Center



HCMC has committed to building a Wellness Center that will incorporate Physical therapy, wellness institute, Occupational therapy and wellness development of the community. This is in the fundraising and planning stages and HCMC Foundation has committed funds to begin a capital campaign to fund this project. This project will be a great avenue to bring wellness and health awareness into the community and the surrounding counties/communities that HCMC services.

